

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for performing release trunking for calls originating and terminating outside of an IP address space, the method comprising:
 - establishing a call from an originator in a first address space outside of the IP address space to an IP device within the IP address space;
 - sending, from the IP device, a message to a switch in the first address space indicating a new destination in the first address space;
 - releasing the established call; and
 - establishing a second call from the originator in the first address space to the new destination in the first address space.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first address space includes a PSTN network.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the establishing of the call is performed via an IP gateway configured to bridge the first address space and the IP address space.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the IP gateway communicates using a Signaling System 7 (SS7) Protocol within the first address space and a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) within the IP address space, the IP telephony gateway translating received messages between the SS7 Protocol and the SIP Protocol.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the establishing of the second call comprises sending a SIP REFER message from the IP device to the IP telephony gateway, the SIP REFER message including an indication of the destination.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the establishing of the second call further comprises sending, by the IP telephony gateway, a SS7 FAR message including the indication of the destination and a Circuit Identification Code (CIC) from the call from the originator, the CIC being previously saved by the IP gateway during the establishing of the call from the originator to the IP device through the IP gateway.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the FAR message includes information for billing within a PSTN switch.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein the IP device includes at least one of an IP proxy and an IP client.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein call progress messages are passed between the originator and the IP device.
10. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining, by the IP device, the destination based on information provided from the originator.
11. A method for bridging calls, comprising:

establishing a first leg of a call originating from a first address space to an IP device in an IP address space;

establishing a second leg of a call originating from the IP device in the IP address space to the first address space;

bridging the first leg of the call and the second leg of the call; and

releasing the first and the second legs of the call from the IP device, such that resources of the IP device are not used for the bridged call.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the first address space includes a PSTN network.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the establishing the first leg of the call and the establishing the second leg of the call comprise using an IP gateway to send and receive first messages to a device in the first address space and using the IP gateway to send and receive second messages to the IP device in the IP address space.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the first messages are in a Signaling System 7 (SS7) protocol and the second messages are in a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP).

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the IP device functions as one of a SIP client and a SIP proxy.

16. The method of claim 14, further comprising:
sending billing information from the IP device to the IP gateway; and
sending the billing information from the IP gateway to the first address space.

17. A system for performing release trunking for calls originating and terminating outside of an IP address space, comprising:
a gateway configured to send and receive messages using a first protocol in a first address space and to send and receive messages using a second protocol in the IP address space; and
an IP device located within the IP address space and configured to communicate with the gateway, wherein
the IP device is further configured to send a first message to the gateway requesting that a call be setup between an originator in the first address space and a destination in the first address space, an indicator for the destination being included in the first message and being based on information received over an established call to the IP device from the originator, and
the gateway is further configured to:
request resources of the established call to be released;
translate the first message in the first protocol to a second message in the second protocol, and
send the second message to a device in the first address space.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the IP device is further configured to include billing information in the first message.

19. The system of claim 17, wherein the first address space includes a PSTN network and the gateway is configured to communicate over the PSTN network using a Signaling System 7 (SS7) protocol and over the IP address space using a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP).

20. The system of claim 17, wherein the gateway is configured to include the indicator for the destination in the second message when the gateway translates the first message to the second message.

21. The system of claim 17, wherein the IP device is further configured to collect billing information and to send billing data, based on the billing information, to the gateway and the gateway is configured to send the billing information into the first address space.

22. The system of claim 17, wherein the IP device is configured to send call progress messages to the gateway.

23. A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by one or more processors to perform a method for release trunking for calls originating and terminating outside of an IP address space, the computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions for receiving a request for a call to an IP device from a device in a first address space;

instructions for saving an indication of an originator of the call;

instructions for translating the request for the call from a first protocol to a second protocol and sending the request in the second protocol to the IP device;

instructions for receiving from the IP device a message in the second protocol requesting a second call be established to a new destination;

instructions for translating the message requesting the second call to the first protocol and inserting the indication of the originator into the message; and

instructions for sending the message into the first address space.

24.. The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the first protocol is a Signaling System 7 (SS7) protocol and the second protocol is a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP).

25. The computer-readable medium of claim 23, further comprising:

instructions for receiving a call progress message from one of the first address space and the IP address space;

instructions for translating the received call progress message from one of the first protocol and the second protocol to another of the first protocol and the second protocol;

and

instructions for sending a translated call progress message to another of the first address space and the IP address space.

26. The computer-readable medium of claim 23, further comprising instructions for releasing call resources when a message indicating termination of the call is received from one of the first address space and the IP address space.